



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: ~~US~~ Patent Application 09/261,080
~~Filed~~ March 2, 1999
~~Applicant~~ Schuster
~~Examiner~~ Rodney Fuller
~~Art Unit~~ 2851
~~Telephone~~ 703-306-5641
~~Attorney Docket~~ (Z) 98005 P US

Box Response
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Amendment

Dear Examiner Fuller:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 5, 2001, the claims in this application are presented herewith, together with a marked-up version of the claims showing changes made to claims 11, 13, 14, 15 and 18.

In the Claims:

Cancel claim 12.

- Claim 1: A reticle with support material of transparent, optically uniaxial crystal, in which the principal axis of said crystal is substantially perpendicular to the surface of said reticle.
- Claim 2: A reticle based on MgF_2 as support material, in which the principal axis of said MgF_2 is oriented substantially perpendicular to the surface of said reticle.
- Claim 4: The reticle according to claim 1, further comprising a cooling device.
- Claim 5: The reticle according to claim 4, in which said cooling device has a flowing fluid.
- Claim 7: The reticle according to claim 2, further comprising a cooling device.
- Claim 8: An illumination equipment for microlithography comprising:

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Schuster
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